Minority Outreach and Technical Assistance (MOTA)

Mt. Olive AME Church, CATS Team - Kent County

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The CATS Team (Citizens Against Tobacco Smoke) is a grassroots coalition comprised of volunteers from twelve local African American churches in Kent County, Maryland. Organized in 1997, CATS is a non-profit organization functioning under the umbrella of Mt. Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church. The Team consists of 20 members all whom are active in the decision-making process.

Originally, the CATS Team was committed to fight tobacco usage among the church parishioners as well as community members at large. However, the scope of the coalition's activities has increased significantly and includes the detecting and the prevention of fatal diseases such as cardiovascular, cancer, stroke, obesity and diabetes. The CATS Team works to empower the minority population to become healthier through education and self-sustaining practices. The goal is to raise awareness in the minority communities in Kent County about theresources that are available to them in the detecting and the prevention of prevalent fatal diseases. Also, making them aware that they are responsible for their well-being and that their bodies are "temples" and should be treated as such.

For more information about the CATS Team or the MOTA program in Kent County, please contact Rev. Mary Walker at 410-778-4842.